

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat. Application No.

PCT/GB 03/00999

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61L27/38 A61L27/56 A61K9/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61L A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, FSTA, INSPEC, CHEM ABS Data, MEDLINE, EMBASE, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 91 09079 A (ERBA CARLO SPA) 27 June 1991 (1991-06-27) cited in the application page 8, line 2 - line 7 page 9, line 12 - line 19 examples 1-4 claims 1-7	1-12, 14-22
X	HILE D D ET AL: "Active growth factor delivery from poly(d,l-lactide-co-glycolide) foams prepared in supercritical CO ₂ " JOURNAL OF CONTROLLED RELEASE, ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS B.V., AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 66, no. 2-3, May 2000 (2000-05), pages 177-185, XP004193066 ISSN: 0168-3659 The whole document	1-3, 6-12, 14-19, 21,22
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

8 July 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/08/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Menidjel, R

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 02 00275 A (GRIFFITHS IAN ;SEARGEANT KENNETH MALCOLM (GB); VICTREX MFG LTD (GB) 3 January 2002 (2002-01-03) page 1, line 3 - line 22 page 20, line 13 - line 33 page 29, line 5 -page 30, line 16 -----	1-12, 14-22
A	ANGELA K, DILLOW, FARIBA DEGHANI, JEFFREY S. HRKACH, NEIL R. FOSTER AND ROBERT LANGER : "Bacterial inactivation by using near- and supercritical carbon dioxide" PROC. NATL. ACAD. SCI. USA, vol. 96, 1999, pages 10344-10348, XP002246774 cited in the application page 10344, left-hand column, paragraph 1 page 10347, left-hand column, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2 -----	1-22

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Present claims 1-22 relate to an extremely large number of possible methods/products. In fact, the claims contain so many options, that a lack of clarity (and/or conciseness) within the meaning of Article 6 PCT arises to such an extent as to render a meaningful search of the claims impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear (and/or concise), e.g. on page 4, lines 13-page 9, line 16, the examples 1-9, claims 5-15, 20, 21 and the general idea underlying the present application.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Publication No

PCT/GB 03/00999

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9109079	A	27-06-1991	DE 69018456 D1	11-05-1995
			DE 69018456 T2	07-12-1995
			WO 9109079 A1	27-06-1991
			EP 0464163 A1	08-01-1992
			JP 4505775 T	08-10-1992
WO 0200275	A	03-01-2002	AU 7432201 A	08-01-2002
			WO 0200275 A1	03-01-2002